I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 272 143 830 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: June <u>9</u>, 2005

(Marian L. Christopher)

Docket No.: 529282001700

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Christopher J. BURNS et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: (Intl.) 11 December 2003

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: PYRAZINE-BASED TUBULIN INHIBITORS Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.